

**PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
ON CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
CHAPTER 18.43 RCW**

New Sections to Chapter 196-16 WAC

(New Section)

WAC 196-16-100 Purpose and Effective Date. The purpose of the continuing education requirement is to encourage licensed professional land surveyors, under chapter 18.43 RCW, to maintain competency in their practice. On or after July 1, 2007 and thereafter, every licensed land surveyor must meet these requirements as a condition of continued licensure.

(New Section)

WAC 196-16-105 Definitions. Terms used in this section are defined as follows:

1. Professional Development Hour (PDH) - An hour engaged in a qualifying activity.
2. Continuing Education Unit (CEU) - Unit of credit customarily used for continuing education courses. One continuing education unit equals 10 Professional Development Hours.
3. College/Unit Semester/Unit Quarter - Courses in college level curriculums satisfactory to the Board.
4. Qualifying activity – Any activity that is related to land surveying and will help the licensee maintain competency in their practice as a professional land surveyor.

(New Section)

WAC 196-16-110 Requirements. Starting on July 1, 2006, all licensed professional land surveyors wishing to maintain lawful practice must accumulate 15 PDH each year of a two-year renewal cycle. If a licensee exceeds the annual requirement in any renewal period, a maximum of 15 PDH hours may be carried forward into the subsequent renewal period. Excess PDH accumulated in the six months preceding a renewal period also may be carried forward for application in the next renewal period. All renewals of a land surveyor license occurring on or after July 1, 2007 are subject to audit by the Board.

(New Section)

WAC 196-16-120 Qualifying Activities. The Board believes that individuals licensed as professional land surveyors should have the discretion to make independent choices on what activities help them to be improved practitioners. While the Board will not provide advance approvals for selected activities or vendors they do expect licensees to seek out qualifying activities that can be

demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Board that they are relevant to the practice of land surveying.

(New Section)

WAC 196-16-130 Units. Qualifying activities will accrue PDH as follows:

1. College hours:
 - a. 1 College or unit semester hour 45 PDH
 - b. 1 College or unit quarter hour 30 PDH
2. 1 Continuing Education Unit 10 PDH
3. Each publication:
 - a. Technical paper or article 10 PDH
 - b. Book 30 PDH
4. Membership in professional / technical societies or government committees or boards. 2 PDH
(for a maximum of not to exceed 4 PDH /year)
5. Attendance at professional or technical society meetings with an informational program. ½ PDH
(per occasion, but not to exceed 4 PDH/year)
6. Attendance at Board meetings or hearings 1 PDH
(for each hour of attendance but not to exceed 4 PDH/year)
7. For each hour presenting a professional development program(*) related to land surveying practice at seminars, or professional/technical meetings, conventions, or conferences. 2 PDH
() Teaching credit is valid for teaching a course or seminar for the first time only. Teaching credit does not apply to full-time faculty.*
8. One PDH for each hour of participation in committees of organizations whose purpose is to develop codes, standards, examinations and regulations.
9. One PDH for each hour participating in an activity involving substantial and organized peer interaction, excluding time spent during regular employment.
(for each hour but not to exceed 4 PDH/year)
10. One PDH for each hour of participation in employer provided courses on technology or management skills.

11. One PDH for each hour of participation in sessions, courses, or seminars sponsored by technical or professional societies.
12. One PDH for each hour of self-study.
(for each hour but not to exceed 4 PDH/year)

(New Section)

WAC 196-16-140 Activities that do not qualify for PDH credits. The following are not considered qualifying activities:

1. Taking courses, specialized instruction or meeting performance criteria that were conditions of a board order.
2. Attendance or testimony at legislative hearings.
3. Attendance or testimony at city or county council meetings/hearings.
4. Attendance or testimony at civil or criminal trials.
5. Time spent fund raising for scholarships or other society purposes or lobbying for legislation.
6. Attendance at gatherings that are primarily social in nature.

(New Section)

WAC 196-16-150 Determination of Credit. The board has final authority with respect to acceptance of claimed qualifying activities and the respective PDH credit. Qualifying activity becomes eligible for credit upon completion of the given activity. Credits gained in excess of the 15 PDH annual requirement may be carried over for up to one year following the date of completion.

(New Section)

WAC 196-16-160 Record keeping and audits. The licensee is responsible for maintaining records to be used to support credits claimed. Records should include date of activity, instructor's name, description of activity, number of contact hours and location.

(New Section)

WAC 196-16-170 Non-compliance with Continuing Education.

1. If a licensee chooses to not complete continuing education or has been found to have not satisfactorily completed the continuing education requirement, his or her license will not be renewed and will be shown as expired until such time as the outstanding continuing education requirements have been completed.
2. Falsifying or attempting to falsify continuing education credits to the board is unprofessional conduct as provided in Chapter 196-27A WAC and is subject to disciplinary action as provided in Chapter 18.43 RCW and Chapter 18.235 RCW.

(New Section)

WAC 196-16-180 Comity/Out-of-Jurisdiction Resident The continuing education requirements, as provided for in this chapter, may be satisfied when a licensee provides independent verification that he or she has satisfied continuing education requirements in another state with requirements judged by the Board as equivalent to the requirements of Washington.

Amending Sections of:

Chapter 196-12 WAC

Chapter 196-16 WAC

Chapter 196-25 WAC

Chapter 196-27A WAC

WAC 196-12-065 & 196-16-035 Retired Status Certificate of Registration.

(2) Privileges. In addition to the waiver of the renewal fee, a retired registrant is permitted to:

(i) A professional land surveyor in retired status is not required to complete continuing education as provided in Chapter 196-16 WAC. However, if a retired land surveyor wishes to return to active status, the licensee will need to compile 15 additional PDH during their first year of reactivated practice.

WAC 196-25-040 Provisions Pertaining to Only Corporations, Joint Stock Associations and Limited Liability Companies.

(3) The designated engineer and/or designated land surveyor must have a valid (current license) and be an employee of the business.

WAC 196-27A-030 Explicit Acts of Misconduct.

In addition to any failure to conform with the requirements of chapter [18.43](#) or [18.235](#) RCW, or this chapter, the following acts and any act or condition listed in RCW [18.235.130](#), are explicitly defined as misconduct in the practice of engineering and/or land surveying.

(16) Willfully making false statements or submitting fraudulent documents when reporting the completion of continuing education requirements.